

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 9-16, with the following amended paragraph:

As a method of controlling an inverter for driving the induction motor so that the induction motor is operated at variable speed, there is known a V/f fixed control method of controlling an output voltage (V_1) of the inverter in proportion to a primary frequency (f_1) of the inverter. This method has a problem that when a load is applied, an induced voltage (E_m) of the induction motor is reduced because of a voltage drop across a primary resistance (r_1) of the induction motor, so that a magnetic flux of the induction motor is made small and accordingly a maximum torque is reduced.

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 17-28 with the following amended paragraph:

In order to increase a torque in a low and medium speed area, a general inverter includes torque boost function. When a large start torque is required, a boost voltage is set up to a high voltage in a low speed area and the boost voltage is added to a V/f fixed voltage command (induced voltage command E_m^*) to produce an output voltage command of the inverter. However, when the boost voltage is increased, over-excitation occurs in no load. When the over-excitation occurs, the magnetic flux of the induction motor is saturated and accordingly an excitation reactance is reduced to thereby increase an excitation current. Consequently, the

temperature of the induction motor rises or the current of the inverter is increased excessively, so that there is the possibility that over-current protection function or over-load protection function is operated to be tripped.

Please replace the paragraph on page 2, lines 1-7, with the following amended paragraph:

A method of suppressing the over-excitation is described in, for example, JP-A-7-163188. In this method, a command for setting up a frequency to zero is issued before start of operation and a DC current is supplied to the induction motor. An output voltage of the inverter at the time that a current of U-phase becomes equal to an equivalent of a design value of the excitation current is set up as a torque boost voltage ΔV_z0 at the time that the frequency is 0 Hz.

Please replace the paragraph on page 2, lines 9-19, with the following amended paragraph:

In the above method, since a torque boost voltage is set up so that the current in no load is equal to a rated excitation current (design value of excitation current), no over-excitation occurs. In this case, however, the voltage drop across the primary resistance is increased when the induction motor is loaded, and accordingly As a result, there is a problem that the induced voltage (magnetic flux of motor) is reduced to thereby decrease an output torque. In this manner, ~~heretofore~~, when the torque boost voltage is made high, the torque is increased, while over-excitation occurs when the load is light. Conversely, when the torque boost voltage is made low, the

over-excitation does not occur, while there is an antithetic problem that the torque is not increased.

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 14-15, with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 1 is a block diagram schematically illustrating ~~an embodiment of an~~ inverter apparatus according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 24-26, with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 5A and 5B are graphs showing an output voltage characteristic and an output current characteristic of ~~the an~~ inverter apparatus when a torque boost voltage is varied in no load state in the control of the present invention;

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 12-18, with the following amended paragraph:

An AC power from an AC power supply 1 is converted into a DC power by means of a rectification circuit 2 and a smoothing capacitor 3. The DC power is converted into an AC variable voltage having a variable frequency by means of an inverter unit 4 to drive an induction motor 5 so that the induction motor is operated at variable speed. An output frequency and an output voltage of the inverter unit 4 are controlled by an inverter control circuit including, for example, a gate circuit 6, a V/F gain 7, a torque boost voltage commander 8, an integrator 9, a uw/dq converter 11, a

PI controller 12, a limiter processing unit 13, a primary resistance 14, a dq/uw converter 15, and a gate support generator 16, as shown in Fig. 1.

Please replace the paragraph spanning pages 4 and 5 with the following amended paragraph:

In the inverter control circuit of the embodiment, a primary frequency command $\omega 1^*$ of the inverter unit 4 is multiplied by a V/f gain 7 to produce an induced voltage command E_m^* . Further, a torque boost voltage commander 8 produces a torque boost voltage command ΔV_z^* in accordance with the primary frequency command $\omega 1^*$. In this connection, ΔV_{z0} is a torque boost voltage set value. Then, the primary frequency command $\omega 1^*$ is integrated by an integrator 9 to produce a reference phase command θ_d^* which is a phase reference of the output voltage of the inverter unit 4. Further, a uvw/dq converter 11 makes calculation of the equation (1) on the basis of output currents i_u and i_w of a motor current detector 10 and the reference phase command θ_d^* to detect an excitation current I_d (equivalent of no-load current) of the inductor motor 5.

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 5-25, with the following amended paragraph:

Next, a deviation of the an excitation current limitation level command I_{dmax}^* and the detected excitation current value I_d is amplified by a PI (proportion and integration) controller 12 and an output of the PI controller 12 is supplied to a limiter processing unit 13. The limiter processing unit 13 processes the output of the PI controller 12 to produce a torque boost voltage compensation value ΔV_c . Here, the torque boost voltage command ΔV_z^* is inverted by an inverter [-1] and the inverted torque boost voltage command ΔV_z^* is used as a lower limiter value of the limiter processing unit 13. The lower limiter value is varied in accordance with the primary

frequency command $\omega 1^*$ of the inverter unit 4. Further, ΔV_c and ΔV_z^* are added to produce a final compensated torque boost voltage command ΔV_t^* . Then, ΔV_t^* is added to the induced voltage command E_m^* to produce a q-axis voltage command V_q^* of the inverter output voltage. On the other hand, a d-axis voltage command V_d^* of the inverter output voltage is calculated by multiplying a rated excitation current command I_d^* by an equivalent of a primary resistance r_1 of the motor in a primary resistance constant circuit 14. Then, a dq/uvw converter 15 is supplied with the rotating coordinate axis components V_d^* and V_q^* of the inverter output voltage command and produces three-phase voltage commands V_u^* , V_v^* and V_w^* for the fixed coordinate axis. This calculation is expressed by the equation (2).

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 14-22, with the following amended paragraph:

As described above, when the load is light, the final compensated torque boost voltage command ΔV_t^* is reduced so that the excitation current I_d is equal to the excitation current limitation level I_{dmax}^* ($I_d = I_{dmax}^*$) and when the load is heavy, the final compensated torque boost voltage command ΔV_t^* is increased conversely. Since the compensation value ΔV_c is varied within the range of the boost voltage command ΔV_z^* by means of the limiter processing control-unit 13, the final compensated torque boost voltage command ΔV_t^* is operated within the range of $0 \leq \Delta V_t^* \leq \Delta V_z^*$ to thereby prevent excessive compensation.

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 23-25, with the following amended paragraph:

Operation of the embodiment is now described with reference to an

approximate equivalent circuit and voltage and current vector diagrams of the induction motor 5.

Please replace the paragraph spanning pages 7 and 8 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 3A illustrates a T-type equivalent circuit. r_1 and r_2 represent primary and secondary resistances, x_1 , x_2 and x_m represent primary and secondary leakage reactances and excitation reactance, respectively. Further, s represents slip. In the low-frequency area in which the torque boost control is required, $x_1 \leq r_1$ and $x_2 \leq r_2/s$. Accordingly, in the low-frequency area, the induction motor 5 can be approximated by the equivalent circuit of Fig. 3B.

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 5-6, with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 4A and 4B show voltage and current vector diagrams of the induction motor 5 in no load and heavy load using the approximate equivalent circuit.

Please replace the paragraph on page 9, lines 9-13, with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 5A and 5B show characteristics of the inverter output current I_1 and the inverter output voltage V_1 in the case where the torque boost voltage set value ΔV_{z0} is increased gradually when the output frequency command of the inverter unit 4 is fixed to a low frequency and the inverter unit 4 is operated in no load in control of the embodiment.